

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

CLAIMS 1-3 (CANCELLED)

4. (NEW) A processing method for an indigo-dyed cloth comprising the steps of:
applying a nitrogen-based oxidizing agent to an indigo-dyed cloth; and
subjecting the resulting cloth to a heating process.

5. (NEW) The processing method for an indigo-dyed cloth according to claim 4, wherein with respect to the nitrogen-based oxidizing agent, one or more kinds of materials selected from the group consisting of nitrate of heavy metal, nitric acid, ammonium nitrate and nitrite of alkali metal are used in the form of an aqueous solution.

6. (NEW) The processing method for an indigo-dyed cloth according to claim 4, wherein with respect to the nitrogen-based oxidizing agent, one or more kinds of materials selected from the group consisting of zinc nitrate and ammonium nitrate are used in the form of an aqueous solution.

7. (NEW) An indigo-dyed cloth processed by a method disclosed in any one of claims 4 to 6.